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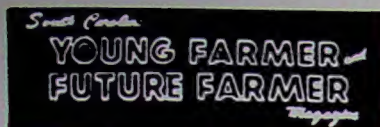


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TO FFA MEMBERS

BY J. EARL FRICK, JR.

A new and exciting school year is underway, and FFA members and advisors are looking forward to another banner year for our FFA organization. Major efforts are being made at all levels to broaden and expand the image of agricultural education and the FFA organization. Our organization has continued to evolve model programs and activities that instill confidence, initiative, responsible citizenship, leadership and real-world know-how in its members. Encourage your classmates and friends to join you to help make this year the best ever.

Travel plans to the National FFA Convention in Kansas City, November 7-10 have been finalized. Seats have been reserved on four flights from each of the following airports: Columbia, Greenville-Spartanburg, Charlotte and Myrtle Beach. The teachers from District 4 are also organizing a bus trip. A limited number of rooms and airline tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Noted speakers will include Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeutter, high school

principal Joe Clark, Fred McClure, who is a special assistant to President Bush, and several motivational speakers. The National Agricultural Career Show will have an excellent display of job and educational opportunities in agriculture that are available to FFA members.

The new school year also begins a new year of FFA activities and awards such as soil judging, livestock selection, farm business management, agricultural mechanics, parliamentary procedure, forestry, nursery/landscape and floriculture. There are many individual activities that you can participate in, including Computers in Agriculture award, public speaking, creed speaking, Agriscience Student award, 29 proficiency awards, the State FFA Degree program, state and national convention, FFA camp and leadership conference. And the chapter members should also participate in the Building Our American Communities (BOAC) program, chapter safety and national chapter awards program.

TO YOUNG FARMERS

BY HUGH WEATHERS, PRESIDENT

Kiwi and catfish, wildlife and watermelons — the 1990 Young Farmer Summer Tour had points of interest for everyone. Approximately eighty young farmers and their families enjoyed the various stops in the lowcountry area. Sponsored by the Allendale-Hampton-Jasper Chapter, the tour visited the greenhouses and kiwi orchards operated by the Kinard family, the commercial catfish operation of the Youman family near Estill, the Webb Wildlife Center, and the smaller-scale catfish and truck crop farm owned by the Eddie Patterson family. The favorite stop of many was another that centered on catfish, not growing them, but eating them. Lunch at Estill High School was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

The National Young Farmers Association, at its summer meeting in July, voted

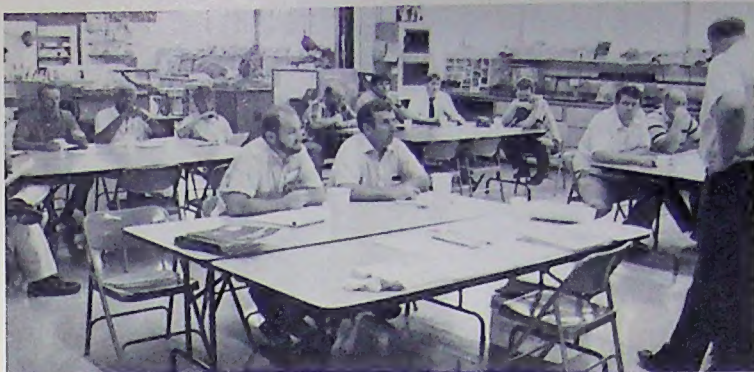
to increase dues from \$2.00 to \$5.00. We must now act on this matter as a state association. It will be the main item of business at the 1991 convention.

The other main issue at the 1991 convention will be whether you take a hit if you're showing sixteen. Since farming is often compared to gambling, you'll have a chance at Casino Night at the convention to show if farming has helped you learn to "play the odds." You can then spend your winnings bidding on items auctioned off.

Two nights at the Radisson at Myrtle Beach. Good friends, good food, and maybe good luck. Make your plans now to be there January 18th and 19th. Need more incentive? With over 250 registered for the convention, the trio of McClimon, Lloyd, and Frick will perform Saturday night.

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The National FFA Convention was one of the topics discussed by State Supervisor Hugh McClimon and agriculture teachers at the District I inservice meeting last month at the Roper Mountain Science Center in Greenville.

National FFA Convention Offers Kansas City Excitement Next Month

More than 200 South Carolina FFA members will represent the state at the 63rd National FFA Convention, November 7-10, in Kansas City. Keynote speakers include high school principal Joe Clark, subject of the film "Lean On Me," and Fred McClure, special assistant to President George Bush. Also scheduled to appear are Amway President Rich DeVos and motivational speakers Zig Ziglar and W. Mitchell. The 1991 theme, "FFA — Leadership for a Growing Planet" will be premiered at the convention. The new theme focuses on FFA's role in preparing young people for agricultural and environmental challenges of a growing population.

The South Carolina delegation will include state and district winners in several categories of competitive activities, according to Hugh P. McClimon, state supervisor of agricultural education. Most of the students attending have won expense paid trips as contest winners in these competitive events. Students will compete in live-stock, agricultural mechanics, forestry, floriculture, nursery/landscape, and farm business management contests. Official voting delegates from South Carolina will be John Holladay of Manning, Michael Hemingway of Britton's Neck, Candice Hallman of Saluda and Levern Fanning of Hunter-Kinard-Tyler.

The National Agricultural Career Show, scheduled in conjunction with the FFA convention, will highlight what agricultural education and the FFA organization is doing to prepare students in the industry.

Three Selected For National FFA Band and Chorus

Three state members have been selected to participate in the National

FFA Band and Chorus, which takes a leading role in the convention program. They include Lee Mayfield of Dorman, band; and bass Barry Anderson of Green Sea Floyds and tenor Lee Barrett of Lexington AVC, chorus.

Seven to Receive American FFA Degrees

Seven South Carolina students of agricultural education will receive the American FFA Degree, the highest award in agricultural education, during ceremonies next month at the National FFA Convention in Kansas City.

The South Carolinians selected include Jay B. Gambrell of Calhoun Falls FFA Chapter; Richard D. Gammage of Dorman FFA Chapter; Steve Garnto of Aiken FFA Chapter; Russell J. Graves, Aaron Reason, Byron Williams, all of Britton's Neck FFA Chapter; and Jeffrey D. Swartz of Wagener-Salley FFA Chapter.

Britt Finalist in Computers in Agriculture Award

Clay G. Britt of Green Sea Floyds is one of eight finalists in the National FFA Computers in Agriculture Award program. Britt's final competition in Kansas City will include a presentation and interviews with judges.

Edens to Receive Honorary American FFA Degree

Hiott C. Edens, Director of the Cherry Grove FFA Camp for 33+ years, will receive the Honorary American FFA Degree next month at the National FFA Convention. Edens' career in agricultural education spans more than 53 years, including 42 years as a classroom teacher.

Before flying to Sweden, Thomas Dismukes of Dorman FFA Chapter pauses in front of the National FFA Center sign in Alexandria, Virginia. Dismukes, a student on the National FFA Organization's World AgriScience Studies program, attended a three-day orientation at the center in August. While living this year with his hosts, the Per Berndtsson family in Osby, the Spartanburg student attends a vocational secondary school and helps with the host family's farm activities.





Clemson Adds Harper To AG Education Staff

Dr. Joe G. Harper has been appointed Assistant Professor in Agricultural Education at Clemson University. Harper comes to South Carolina from Nevada, where he was Assistant Professor of Agricultural Education at the University of Nevada, Reno. His areas of specialization include teacher education, research, and agricultural mechanics education. A graduate of Virginia Tech, Harper received his Master's degree in agricultural education from Penn State and his Ph.D. in Agricultural Education from Ohio State.



Furman High School agriculture teacher Drefus Williams and FFA Chapter President Brian McLeod display the state BOAC Award their chapter won in June. They represented South Carolina at the eighth national FFA Conference on Community Development held in Washington, D.C. last month.

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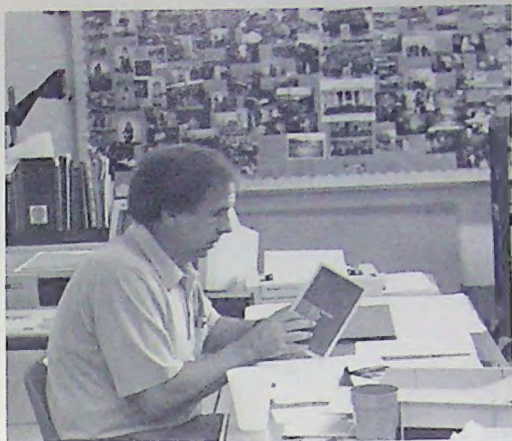
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Virginia and Tommy Huffman display the engraved silver tray they received at the July meeting of the South Carolina Vocational Agricultural Teachers Association (SCVATA). Mr. Huffman retired from teaching at Laurens District 55 High School after more than 30 years service.



Bruce Copeland of Farm Credit Bank of Columbia presents Hugh McClimon, State Supervisor of Agricultural Education, with the SCVATA 30-year service award at the July meeting. McClimon, state advisor for the S.C. Association of FFA and S.C. Association of Young Farmers, was also selected this year to serve a three-year term on the National FFA Board of Directors.



With a bulletin board of activities behind him, Dorman High's Ferrell Bridwell looks over his FFA Handbook in preparation for class.



These ag science students at Furman High listen to ag teacher Drefus Williams describe the FFA activities in the coming year.

1990 School Year Begins New Decade Of FFA Challenges and Successes

The 1990 school year began with new and returning students learning about FFA and the changing world of agriculture. There are some 6,000 students enrolled in high school agriculture classes in South Carolina, and most are FFA members.

Joining FFA means learning a new FFA Creed, preparing for livestock shows and attending fairs in the fall. It means learning to pot plants in the greenhouses and answering classroom textbook questions. It includes electing officers and learning parliamentary procedures, attending district meetings and preparing for competitions.

FFA means a trip to Kansas City for some 200-plus students and the opportunity to meet members from other states. It means recognizing the goals and values of our national heritage in agriculture and becoming involved in FFA. FFA activities include planting trees in the community, learning forestry management practices, using computer skills in farm management and making wise choices in using natural resources. There's the state convention at Clemson in June and summer camp after it at Cherry Grove.

Feeling the pride from wearing the blue FFA corduroy jacket is part of the school year. Its learning that many South Carolinians are former FFA members and that they, like all FFA members, believe in the future of agriculture.



Ornamental horticulture students Chris Beasley and Selina Leonholdt learn proper potting methods from Chester Career Center's Richard Kizer.



West-Oak High School seniors Pam Long and Dawn Holliday get introduced to the greenhouse misting system from ag teacher Steve Willis.

State's Agriculture Classes Get New and Returning Teachers

The following are this year's new and returning agriculture education teachers and respective schools: David E. Jensen, B.J. Skelton Career Center, Easley; Tim Shealy, Darlington Career Center, Darlington; Steven McGaha, Pleasant Hill High School, Hemingway; Peter Gray, Mt. Pleasant High School, Elliott; Harry DuBose, Aynor High School; Nancy Sanford, John de la Howe School, McCormick; Steve Willis and Tim Marcengill, West-Oak High School, Westminster.



State FFA President John Holladay and Bernie Staller, Executive Director of the National FFA Foundation, discuss the challenges in agriculture.



Thomas E. Dawkins of Estill High School receives his ten year award from Bruce Copeland, Farm Credit Bank of South Carolina.



Chris Edge of Clover High School receives the 30-Minute Club award from SCVATA District 2 Vice-President Tommy Harmon.



Annual Conference To Columbia for I

District meetings, exhibits and workshops on current agricultural topics highlighted the annual vocational conference held in July. Approximately 125 agricultural educators came to the USC Coliseum on Monday, July 30 to discuss the latest issues in agriculture. District meetings on Tuesday were followed by Wednesday's special interest workshops on ornamental horticulture, reforestation after hurricane Hugo, tractor electrical systems, farm business management, aquaculture and leadership activities.

SCVATA Elects New Officers

Michael Haynes, agriculture teacher at Manning High School, is the new president of the South Carolina Vocational Agricultural Teachers Association. He succeeded Frank R. Stover of Pelion at the July meeting. Other new officers include Thomas Dawkins, President-Elect; Al Gray, District 1 Vice-President; Jack Cunningham, District 2 Vice-President; Pat Earle, District 3 Vice-President;



Outgoing SCVATA President Frank Stover, Jr., makes a point to Michael Haynes, SCVATA President for 1990-91.



The first session included an address "Perceptions Are Reality" by Bernie Staller, Executive Director of the National FFA Foundation.

Draws Teachers Education, Awards

and Joe Wilson, District 4 Vice-President. Darrell Ricketts remains as treasurer and Mark Wyndham continues as Executive Secretary.

The following service and retirement awards were presented at the July meeting. Ten-year service awards went to Pat Earle of McBee High School and Thomas Dawkins of Estill High School.

A twenty-year service award went to Jack Cunningham of Gilbert High School. Hugh McClimon received the thirty year service award. T.B. Huffman of Laurens 55 High School received the retirement award, an engraved silver tray from SCVATA.

SCVATA 30-minute Club Awards went to Clark Woods, Glenn Stevens, G.P. Jones, Jr., F.M. Bridwell, John R. Crawford and Dennis N. Haltiwanger, all in District 1. District 2 winners were Jack Cunningham, Tommy Harmon, and Chris Edge. Clemson staff winners of the award were Drs. Glen C. Shinn, Alex Hash, Jack Mercer, Lloyd Blanton, and Curtis White.



Edgar B. Johnson of B.J. Skelton Career Center receives his Exchange of Ideas recognition from William Keels, SCVATA District 3 Vice-President.



Pat Earle of McBee High School receives his ten year award from Bruce Copeland of Farm Credit Bank of Columbia.



State Superintendent Dr. Charlie Williams, South Carolina Vocational Association President Darrell W. Ricketts and South Carolina FFA Executive Secretary Earl Frick discuss education issues after the SCVATA awards banquet.



Drefus Williams of Furman High School receives his 30-Minute Club Award from SCVATA District 2 Vice-President Tommy Harmon.



Johnny and Wes Massey, representing Hartwell Plastics of Anderson, pose with Crescent High FFA student Sherry Maudin and her prize-winning Shorthorn. For placing first, Maudin won a trip sponsored by Hartwell Plastics to the National FFA Convention in Kansas City in November.



John Herron, left, and Jay Copelan, right, are the agriculture teachers and chapter sponsors at Crescent High School.

Crescent Shows Their Best In Livestock Competitions

The Anderson County Fair last month was one of six that the Crescent FFA Chapter will show in this year. FFA Advisors John Herron and Jay Copelan drive their trucks and livestock trailers more than 5,000 miles each fall as they coach students in livestock showmanship.

"We'll have a number of grand champion winners at this show," Copelan predicts on this Friday afternoon. The open beef show category of the Anderson Fair draws seventeen of his students to show their cattle. "We have at least two students showing in each of the seven categories," he adds. The categories include Angus, Simmental, Charolais and Polled Hereford. First place prize money in each is \$27.

Herron describes their hectic schedule. "Our first show is the South Carolina Junior Beef Roundup here in Anderson on the first weekend of August. Then we go to fairs at Greenville, Spartanburg, back here to Anderson, then the state fair in Columbia. Our last one this year is the Augusta Exchange Club Fair in November."

After each show, Copelan and Herron help their students load the cattle onto trailers and return them to their farms. The Crescent FFA Chapter has two trucks and two livestock trailers, but the process takes most of a Saturday for both men. Herron shrugs off the extra hours and effort: "Both of us like raising animals and we get tremendous support from Anderson farmers. It's worth it."



Like the other students from Crescent and Pendleton FFA chapters, Keith Daigneault grooms his Shorthorn calf before the Anderson Fair cattle showing begins.



Kim McMullen shows off her grand champion Brahman crossbred.



Chad Hicks, right, watches and hopes for a place as the show judge inspects the other entrants in the class.

Edsel Thomas Experiments With Corn in Edgefield County

For years Edsel Thomas of Johnston has been planting mainly wheat and soybeans on his 1,000-plus acres in Edgefield County. This year, with the help of Steve Meadows, Edgefield County Extension Agent, Thomas experimented with twelve different varieties of corn. In April, he was looking for a big crop.

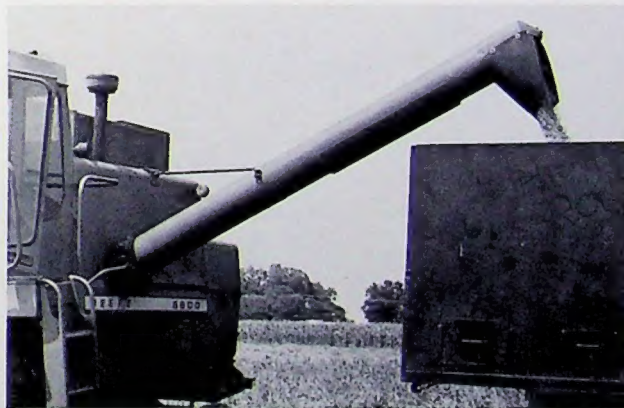
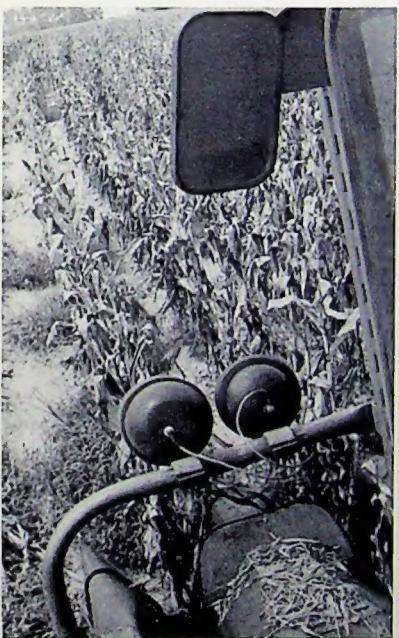
"I just wanted to grow some corn," he said, "but the dry weather really hurt us. The yields should have been twice as much." Along with a regular corn crop, Thomas set aside a test plot with seed furnished from Clemson. He planted twelve rows of twelve different varieties in April, harvested in August.

Thomas also received assistance from Ken Chapman, Edgefield YF Advisor. Chapman regularly measured the yields on the test plot as they were harvested.

According to Meadows, the experiment was valuable in pinpointing several varieties that can withstand dry weather. "Pioneer 3320 and AgriPro 818 varieties did very well, considering the near-drought conditions we had here." Of the twelve varieties planted, four produced 40 bushels or more per acre. "It looks like we have several varieties that we can experiment further with next year," he concluded.



Edsel Thomas stops harvesting long enough to speak to a neighbor passing by.



Top: Edsel Thomas and combine harvesting corn in August.
Middle: Pioneer 3320 hybrid corn.
Bottom: View of cornfield from combine.
Right: Loading truck for the mill.

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